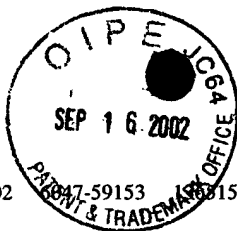


MJ:mgs 09/09/02



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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Donohoe et al.

Art Unit: --

Application No. 09/916,734

Filed: July 26, 2001

For: ETCHING METHODS AND APPARATUS  
AND SUBSTRATE ASSEMBLIES PRODUCED  
THEREWITH

Examiner: --

Date: September 9, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this paper and the documents referred to as being attached or enclosed herewith are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on September 9, 2002 as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231.

Attorney for Applicant

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. § 1.97

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20231

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Sir:

Listed on the accompanying form PTO-1449 and enclosed herewith is a Japanese Patent Document and an associated English language abstract. According to an Office action in a parent application (Application No. 09/342,677), this Japanese Patent Document "disclose[s] a silicon oxide film on a silicon substrate with an aspect ratio of approximately 10." Applicants disagree with this statement, but submit it to fulfill their duty of disclosure according to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)(i).


Applicant(s) respectfully request that these documents be listed as references cited on the issued patent.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of a first Office action on the merits. Thus, according to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), no fee is required. However, if the Patent Office determines that a fee is required for Applicants to file this Information Disclosure Statement, please charge any such fees to Deposit Account No. 02-4550. A **duplicate** copy of this Information Disclosure Statement is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

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